

Court Lane Schools Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your support and participation in the events that we add in to our school calendar to make this time of year as special as possible for our children. Year R were absolute superstars in their Nativity performances last week, performing lots of new songs with incredible confidence. The Juniors enjoyed their annual contemporary carols at Cosham Baptist Church this week, with Years 3 and 5 taking the lead on their portrayal of the Nativity. We have had visits from Santa, Christmas lunches, jumpers, parties, and the most amazing Present Buying Day at each school with CLACA's team of elves busily helping everyone with their wrapping!

It was lovely to come together for our Advent cheer event. Children, families and staff from both schools joined together to sing many Christmas favourites with performances from our school choirs and with the Nativity retold by Junior School pupils. Thank you to CLACA for organising the refreshments and Cosham Baptist Church for hosting the evening.

We hope you all enjoy the school break, with time together as families, seeing out the end of 2025 together.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Poppy Appeal. We are delighted to share that Court Lane Academies raised an amazing **£765.34** for the Royal British Legion. The Infant School contributed **£304.59** and the Junior School raised **£460.75**.

Severe weather procedure

If we need to close school for severe weather please be advised that this would be on our official school websites and an email will be sent to parents. Please ensure that you notify the school office of any changes to your contact details.

Food Vouchers

This winter Portsmouth City Council (PCC) are again providing a food voucher to all families of children, in reception through to year 11, eligible for benefits-related free school meals (FSM). Families will receive a **£30 voucher** for every eligible child attending school in Portsmouth. Eligible parents and carers should have received an email from Edenred. Please check your junk /spam folders.

Winter Illness

During colder months we can expect to see increases in common airborne viruses. Illness is the biggest single reason for school absence; while some absences due to illness are unavoidable, many can be reduced through simple, proactive measures that minimise the spread of infections. This useful link offers practical steps on how to reduce illness transmission.

[Reduce the spread of illness this winter](#)



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Dates for your diary

5th January – INSET Day, School Closed

8th January – Yr. 1 Space Dome

8th January – Yr. 2 Victorian Day

19th January – MHST Big Emotions Parent Workshop (Junior Hall)

20th & 21st January – Y5 Weald and Downland Museum trips

6th February – DanceLive! heats

10th & 12th February – Parent Teacher Consultations

16th – 20th February – HALF TERM

23rd February – INSET Day, School Closed

24th & 25th February – Infant School Nurse Screening

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Feedback from you

Thank you to everyone who took the time to let us know your thoughts about our schools and how we could work together for our children. As many of you noted, we deliberately asked a lot of open questions so analysing all the responses has been no mean feat! Our Governors have been examining responses for trends and for ideas that work well for us to take forward:

- We will keep both school's consultation evenings on the same days.
- When the government's SEND proposals are released we will hold some information workshops for parents.
- We are setting up a new way of registering interest in volunteering. Those of you who expressed an interest will receive details of this in the new year (thank you!).
- We will add in an Infant version of the Junior Learning Showcase so you can have more opportunities to engage in your child's learning with them.
- Continuing to refine our communication methods. Some of what we send gets lost, or isn't clear. We are now getting access to the technology we need to make this better and will try to use this to bring everything together in easier to read, timely formats that also include helpful information for you as parents and carers, beyond school events.

Staffing news

This term we have wished a fond farewell to Mrs Becque, who has supported children in classrooms and at lunchtimes at the Infant School. We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Delaney today, who has supported lots of children in the Junior School for many years. We thank them both for all the help and dedicated care they have provided in their time at both schools. Mrs Kennelly from the Juniors is moving across to the Infants, and we are in the long process of recruiting for the vacant TA positions in both schools.

At the Junior School we have also seen Miss Slingsby start her maternity leave, with Mrs Thompson moving across to Year 3 and Mr Worrall joining the teachers in Year 6. Miss Miles from the Year 3 team is also stepping up as Year lead until our new permanent lead and teacher, Mr Taylor, joins us in May.

This term we also saw Mr Leigh join the Juniors in our Pastoral Support Team. He will be working with children across the school but will also have a specific focus on attendance. He may schedule meetings with families where children's attendance is below where it needs to be to work together for a way forward so each child gets the education they need.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday 6 January.

Merry Christmas



Dates for your diary

3/4, 5/6, 10/11, 12/13 March – Year 4 residentials

5th March – World Book Day

16th March – Yr. 2 Great Fire of London workshop

16th March - Junior Rocksteady Concert (2.30pm)

30th March – 10th April – EASTER HOLIDAY

Contact us

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Join the Juniors on Social Media



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More info

www.courtlaneinfant.chimat.uk

www.courtlanejunior.chimat.uk